



# The UFO Enigma

A Publication of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis

Volume 20 - Number 7 - March 2000

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## UFO STUDY GROUP OF GTR ST. LOUIS MEETING

2 PM Sunday, March 12, 2000

### LOCATION

The meeting will be at the Schnucks Store just east of Elm Ave., on Big Bend Blvd. in Webster Groves in their Restaurant banquet room. It is in the far east or left side of the store as you enter from Big Bend. The room is free if our members have lunch there, so plan to come early and enjoy a nice Sunday meal before the meeting.

### MEETING

The meeting will begin with the introduction of officers and directors and a welcome to all visitors. We will then have an open discussion of information about old and new UFO cases or UFO related happenings from all sources. Everyone is invited to speak or ask questions.

### PROGRAM

Our program this month will feature the Chief Field Investigator of UFO happenings for MUFON of Missouri, Jim Kross. We hope he will be able to tell about UFO things in Missouri of which we have not been aware, and bring us up to date with additional information about older UFO cases. He will also talk about the holistic approach to UFO investigations and will present some slides and audio tapes to supplement his remarks.

We want to thank our former President John Schroeder for stepping in and being the substitute speaker for our February meeting on short notice. Our scheduled speaker, Keith Preston, suddenly came down with the flu and was unable to appear. John always gives a great presentation and again did a fine job. Thanks very much for your help in stepping up in an emergency, John.

Keith Preston is now scheduled to appear as our speaker at our April meeting and we thank him for agreeing to accept the new date.

Our meetings have been growing in attendance due to the hard work of our program chairman Arnold Pryor and we appreciate his efforts obtaining speakers for our monthly meetings and placing the announcements in the Get Out section of the St. L. Post-Dispatch.

Come and join us at our March meeting.

## UFO SIGHTINGS

**JULY 14, 1952**

Flying 8,000 feet above Chesapeake Bay this evening, Pan American Airways DC-4 pilot William Nash and copilot William Fortenberry witnessed the coordinated maneuvers of six fast-moving discs. Soon, two more UFOs joined them, and seconds later the eight disappeared to the west. Using charts and navigation equipment, Nash and Fortenberry calculated the UFOs' speed at an incredible 12,000 mph. Blue Book investigators, who interviewed ground witnesses, declared the incident unexplained.

—J. Clark

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===== CLOSING NOTES =====

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CNI NEWS -- Vol. 6, No. 1, Part 3 -- March 1, 2000  
Global News on UFOs & the Search for Extraterrestrial Life  
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CNINews1@aol.com  
Wednesday, March 01, 2000 3:47 PM

## FOX-TV'S "O'REILLY FACTOR" ASKS ABOUT ILLINOIS UFO

Bill O'Reilly, host of FOX-TV's "O'Reilly Factor," had as his guest on Feb 25 Professor Peter Ward of the University of Washington, co-author of the new book "Rare Earth." In the book, Ward and colleague Dr. Donald Brownlee say that conditions favorable to life are probably very sparsely distributed in space, and that any expectation of numerous intelligent ET civilizations is probably groundless.

But O'Reilly wanted to know what Ward thought of the recent widely reported UFO incident in southern Illinois. According to a transcript of the program, the exchange included the following:

O'REILLY: On January 5th of this year, Millstadt, Illinois, police officer Craig Stevens says he saw a large triangular object floating through the sky. Three other policemen confirmed the sighting. UFO investigators are now checking it out, and one theory is that the object was a stealth blimp.... So, Professor, you know, you've got this cop, and he says he saw this thing, it was a UFO, and three other cops say, "Yeah, we saw it, too" -- caused a lot of excitement in the Midwest -- and when you hear this, what do you think?

WARD: Well, the U.S. government for the last 50 years has supposedly been hiding things in hangars. U.S. scientists for the last 50 years have been looking into these supposed sightings, and we as a group have decided to move on, and that's what I suspect that these people in the Midwest ought to do, is move on.

O'REILLY: Have you ever heard of a scientist who does believe in UFOs, extraterrestrials? Is there anybody around with any authority that does believe?

WARD: I'd probably get in trouble if I say that there is. I know of no one, actually, certainly in my circles and the people that I associate with and work with. No.

O'REILLY: All right. So, in the academic world, UFOs have been totally debunked. Is that fair, though? There's a lot of phenomena out in the sky. I mean, we've had astronauts say, "Hey, we saw something really weird." We've had policemen all over the place. I mean, I talked to one woman -- and a very, very honest, credible woman who I've known for years -- say, "I saw something in Nova Scotia, and it changed my life." Do you just discount these things?

WARD: Well, what I've tried to do in our book "Rare Earth" with Don Brownlee... we haven't tried to say, "How often is there intelligent life in the universe?" And, obviously, if it's a UFO, it's being driven by something with intelligence. We've asked the question, "How often are there even worms or very lowly animals in the universe?" And a lot of information in the last five years suggests that there's not much out there. Bacteria, yes, but evolved creatures -- worms, jellyfish, bunny rabbits -- not too many.

CNI News notes: O'Reilly continued to press Ward on whether, somewhere in the cosmos, intelligent life might exist. He ended the interview by saying he wanted to invite Seth Shostack of SETI onto the program because, as Ward put it, Shostack's "job depends on" aliens being out there.

[See <http://www.rense.com/politics6/trav.htm> for full transcript.]

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CNI NEWS -- Vol. 6, No. 1, Part 2 -- March 1, 2000  
Global News on UFOs & the Search for Extraterrestrial Life  
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This is part 2 of the 3-part CNI News. If you did not receive all parts,  
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HEADLINE NEWS, Continued  
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# KLASSIC THEORY ON ILLINOIS UFO -- IT WAS VENUS But Many Find Skeptic Phil Klass's Claim UnfulPhilling

By Michael Lindemann  
With Eric Davis

Philip J. Klass is America's best known UFO debunker. He has earned that reputation by working hard at it for more than three decades, bringing considerable intelligence, knowledge and barbed wit to the task. Until recent health problems began to slow him down, Klass could be counted upon to show up at major UFO conferences, always ready to spar. Unlike many other debunkers, he obviously cares about the subject. That, coupled with his quick tongue, made him the ubiquitous UFO skeptic on countless TV shows, often to the hand-wringing consternation of UFO proponents.

Over the years, Klass has purported to explain a large number of UFO cases in ways that have infuriated other researchers and witnesses. He has published his views in a number of books, including the aptly titled "UFOs Explained", and numerous magazine articles, as well as in his own monthly Skeptics UFO Newsletter (SUN).

In SUN #62 of March 2000, Klass took on the highest-profile UFO case to occur so far this year in the United States. Readers of CNI News will have seen (in the issues of Jan 16 and Feb 1, 2000) our feature stories on this sensational case, in which at least four on-duty police officers and several other civilian witnesses claimed to view a huge triangle or "arrowhead-shaped" flying object with brilliant lights flying silently over south-central Illinois, just east of St. Louis, in the early morning hours of January 5. A thorough investigative report, including testimonies of eight witnesses, can be found at the website of the National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), [http://www.anv.net/nids/news/illinois\\_contents.html](http://www.anv.net/nids/news/illinois_contents.html)

Philip Klass thinks he knows what the Illinois witnesses saw. Those witnesses, he says, saw the planet Venus.

Klass warms up to his main argument by first suggesting that more people -- including this writer -- should take the time to read "The UFO Handbook" by Allan Hendry, authored in 1979 when Hendry was chief investigator and managing editor of the "International UFO Reporter" for the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) in Chicago. In that book, Klass says, Hendry "reports the results of his investigation of 1,307 UFO reports submitted to CUFOS -- many of them by law enforcement officers. Hendry discovered that 360

of these UFOs -- nearly 28% of ALL the UFO sightings reported to CUFOS -- turned out to be bright planets and stars, as highlighted in Chapter 2, titled 'The UFO Imposters: Nocturnal Light IFOs (Identified Flying Objects).'

"In a later chapter, Hendry analyzed the professional backgrounds of those who had submitted UFO reports that turned out to be IFOs. Law enforcement officers had the WORST record: 94% of their UFOs turned out to be IFOs," Klass says.

Furthermore, Hendry showed by statistical analysis that many people who are actually observing bright celestial objects such as Venus mistakenly believe, and report, that the object displays a variety of colors, including red and blue, that it moves, and that it has some shape or size not consistent with a star-like object.

Klass then quotes famed UFO investigator Jacques Vallee as saying that "no single object has been misinterpreted as a 'Flying Saucer' more often than the planet Venus."

By all this, Klass reminds us of the obvious but still important fact that honest witnesses are often wrong -- sometimes startlingly wrong -- about what they report seeing, especially during the night.

Then Klass announces that "BY A CURIOUS COINCIDENCE, a very bright planet Venus was just rising in the southeast on Jan. 5 at the time of the Illinois UFO sightings." And, Klass adds, "The principal witness said the UFO looked like 'a bright star...awful low.'"

He goes on for two more pages of text, offering classic examples of Venus misidentified as a UFO, then quoting excerpts from the NIDS eyewitness transcripts that might demonstrate a similar misidentification. He closes by lamenting that "Very rarely are persons willing to admit that they mistook a bright planet for a UFO" -- and he predicts that "the Venus explanation for the Illinois UFO will be rejected by many, if not all, of the 'witnesses', by NIDS investigators and by many UFO researchers."

CNI News communicated several times with Phil Klass in the days leading up to the March 1 publication of this story. Our intention was to convey to our readers, as best we can, the real thinking of this unusual man. What seems clear -- though one can never be absolutely sure with Klass -- is that he genuinely believes his explanation. He offered a further example of just how wrong witnesses can be, this one cited by J. Allen Hynek himself in his book, "The UFO Experience". Klass wrote:

"The Univ. of Colorado/Condon study had teams of investigators who could be quickly dispatched to areas where UFOs were reportedly seen on successive days/nights. In the fall of 1967, it dispatched a two-man team to Georgia where police officers from 11 different communities had reported chasing a UFO at speeds of up to 70 mph, and/or being chased by a UFO. One policeman reported that the light from the UFO was so bright that the interior of the police car was illuminated such that he was able to read his wrist watch. The UFO was also chased by the pilot of a small general aviation airplane. See pages 368-375 of Condon Report.

"Police reports of the direction in which the UFO (allegedly) was traveling:  
Town D: traveling SOUTH; traveling NORTHEAST...  
Town H: traveling WEST  
Town J: traveling EAST  
Town K: traveling WEST  
Town L: Two UFOs, one traveling SOUTH, one traveling EAST

"Investigation showed that the principal UFO was VENUS, with a semi-bright JUPITER as the second UFO. Dr. Hynek briefly cited this 1967 incident in his book 'The UFO Experience,' in which he said the UFO 'was most definitely

Venus.' Hynek added that this case 'should be read by all UFO investigators. It is a fantastic example of how persuasive the planet Venus can be as a non-screened UFO. Police officers in 11 counties were taken in by this planet.'"

Klass does manage, in the opinion of CNI News, to show that Venus CAN be misidentified as a very impressive, moving UFO. Every serious student of UFO phenomena would do well to keep this disheartening fact in mind.

But does Klass make his case for the Illinois UFO sightings? Here, many sober minds resoundingly say no.

It is worth noting that Klass is not just an admirer of Allan Hendry but, according to Jerome Clark in his massive "UFO Encyclopedia" (2nd edition, vol. 1 pp 481ff), actually tried hard to recruit Hendry to the skeptics' side, even after Klass and Hendry clashed in public over a number of significant UFO cases. But Hendry staunchly distanced himself from Klass and debunkers in general, saying (quoted by Clark), "If a case is worthy of being debunked in a valid fashion, then I will do so, but I will not resort to a contrived solution to write off a UFO sighting simply for the sake of having identified it. That's what separates me from the skeptics."

It has been pointed out more than once by critics that Klass seems intent on writing off UFO sightings by any means necessary, even when the means approaches absurdity.

That may be the case concerning the January 5 UFO sightings in Illinois.

CNI News asked Klass how he could reconcile the consistent references to huge size, many lights, movement and trajectory with the Venus explanation. To which Klass referred us back to Hendry.

But CNI News also asked Klass the following: If Venus were not in the southern sky that morning, what alternate explanation would he offer for these sightings?

The reason for this question is that Venus was NOT VISIBLE to the witnesses at 4 am, and might not have been visible to any witness until almost 5 am that morning, by which time the main sightings had already been reported.

Klass met our serious query with a tongue-in-cheek reply, suggesting that "Boeing had secretly developed a gigantic new airliner of revolutionary design, which can both hover and fly at fantastic speed and which is powered by new engines of revolutionary design that operate noiselessly. And Boeing chose to flight test its revolutionary design at night near St. Louis..."

Humor aside, Klass simply rejected the counter-argument that Venus was not visible. But CNI News is satisfied that neither Venus nor any similarly bright celestial body was available to confuse the Illinois witnesses that morning.

# UFO ROUNDUP



Volume 5  
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Editor: Joseph Trainor



Masinaigan@aol.com

## SAUCER LANDS ON ANCIENT PYRAMID IN WILTSHIRE, UK

"Driver Clive Stevens is seeking the truth behind mysterious coloured lights he saw over Silbury Hill (in North Wiltshire, UK) in the dead of night."

"He said the flashing lights formed the shape of a flattened oval 'rather like a flying saucer' and he is hoping other motorists might have spotted them and tell him what they mean."

"Mr. Stevens, 25, of Upper Isbury in Marlborough, was driving home on the (Motorway) A4 past the Waggon and Horses pub in Beckhampton when he saw the shimmering blue, green, white and red lights in the distance."

"It looked like a helicopter landing pad on an oil rig with all the bright lights,' said Mr. Stevens, a consultant on water softening devices who was returning home after dropping off a friend in Chippenham," a city about 125 miles (180 kilometers) west of London.

"He said it was on a clear night with a bright moon but he could not see people on top of the (Silbury) hill, just the lights forming an oval which he estimated as being two-thirds the size of the hilltop."

"On top of the hill was a whole pattern of lights in a traditional flying saucer shape. They were blinking red, white, green and blue, he said."

"I could not tell if it was hovering, or if it was stationary on top of the hill. It really scared me because I was on my own.; there was no other traffic about, and you hear these stories of alien abductions."

"Mr. Stevens said he was also well aware that the hill stands in the centre of an area where mysterious crop circles are frequently found."

"He said that as he drove past the hill the light dropped behind the hill, and although he did look in his mirror, he did not see it again."

"He added, 'I am not frightened to admit I was scared stiff, and I could not get along the A4 quick enough.'"

"Mr. Stevens, a keen military historian, said he doubted the light could have been from a helicopter or aircraft. Nor does he think the lights were caused by hoaxers because they would have had to be on the end of long poles."

"It was very cold on Sunday morning (February 20, 2000), which makes me think that if there were hoaxers there, they would have needed their heads read,' he added."

The sighting took place at about 4 a.m.

"Doug Sheppard, landlord of the Waggon and Horses pub, said he was in bed at 4 a.m. on Sunday, and he had heard reports of strange happenings at Silbury. But, he said, 'I don't know if it's connected at all, but my telephones went down at the weekend. When BT (British Telecommunications--J.T.) came to repair it, they said it was an exterior line fault.'"

Silbury Hill is one of the most ancient sites in Britain. It's an earthen pyramid that covers five acres and is constructed of over one million tons of earth, apparently moved by hand.

According to Aubrey Burl, author of Prehistoric Avebury, Silbury Hill is an estimated 4,000 years old and is said to be the burial site of King Kunedha, a legendary monarch of the Beaker Folk. The king's body, clad in golden armor, is said to lie at the base of the man-made mound.

Silbury Hill bears an amazing resemblance to the pyramid of Cuicuilco in Mexico, which geologists maintain had to have been built before 8,000 B.C.

Nearby Beckhampton and Abury Hill have been the site of intensive archaeological efforts recently, but it is not known if these activities have anything to do with the landing of the saucer. (See the Wiltshire Gazette and Herald for February 25, 2000. See also Prehistoric Avebury by Aubrey Burl, Yale University Press, 1979, pages 128 to 136. Many thanks to Gerry Lovell of Far Shores for forwarding the newspaper article.)

# SIGHTINGS

## US Judge Sides With UFO Activist Group Against DOD

From ParadigmRG@aol.com  
2-17-2000

Washington, DC - In a decision with the potential to redefine "reasonable search" under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a U. S. District Court Judge in Phoenix agreed yesterday with a UFO activist group and ordered the Department of Defense to provide by March 17 additional affidavits detailing search specifics used to service an FOIA lawsuit.

Previously, on February 7, in a packed courtroom, Chief Judge Stephen M. McNamee heard oral arguments on the government's Motion for Summary Judgment in the FOIA lawsuit, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS)-v. Department of Defense (DoD).

CAUS attorney, Peter A. Gersten had submitted numerous affidavits from witnesses who had observed massive, black, triangular shape craft with extraordinary flight characteristics. But the DoD continued to maintain in court it could find no information confirming the existence of such objects. Gersten was seeking an additional 90 days of discovery and an opportunity to depose DoD personnel.

During the 30 minute hearing Gersten argued the government's search for relevant information lacked the necessary element of "good faith." He claimed the DoD's mishandling of the initial request raised an "inference of

US Judge Sides With UFO Activist Group Against DOD

indifference" on the agency's part and tainted any subsequent search.

Apparently the Judge agreed. He declined to dismiss the case and elected to consider CAUS's claim that the government failed to conduct an adequate search. A written opinion would be issued within 30 days.

Now the Judge has asked the DoD to provide additional affidavits expanding on the methods used by the DoD to service the FOIA request. These will be reviewed in support of the forthcoming ruling for dismissal or further discovery.

CAUS is one of many groups applying pressure for full disclosure by the U. S. government as to the facts regarding UFO/ET phenomena.

Contacts: CAUS  
480-609-9120  
UFOLawyer@caus.org  
<http://www.caus.org>

Paradigm Research Group  
301-564-1820  
ParadigmRG@aol.com  
<http://www.paradigmclock.com>  
<http://www.x-ppac.org>

# FILER'S FILES



**Filer's Files #7-2000**  
**MUFON Skywatch Investigations**  
**George A. Filer: MUFON Eastern Director,**  
**February 18th, 2000**  
**Majorstar@aol.com (609) 654-0020**

## NEW PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF ABDUCTIONS

Marilyn Ruben at Alien Abduction Experience and Research reports that a significant breakthrough in the search for trace physical evidence of alien abductions may have been uncovered in ordinary household dust according to biophysicist Dr. William C. Levengood of Pinelandia Biophysics Laboratory of Michigan. Microscopic glassy particles have been found in household dust of individuals claiming to be abductees. Glassy particles have been found in bedrooms, kitchens, family rooms, hallways, basement stairs, and so on. Glassy particles have not been found in dust where abductions are not known to occur. The glassy particles come in a variety of shapes, including hollow or solid spheres. The particles are occasionally amber in color and vary in size from 1 micron or more, which is 1/1,000 of a millimeter or larger. Other more elongated particles include a "pseudo crystal" and an octopus shape. These forms are often clear and contain definite non-cellular, non-plant structure. A visual inspection of the "pseudo crystals" under 450x magnification gives the appearance of a fiber optic arrangement, while the octopus structure sometimes appears to have exploded outward at its center as if releasing something.

Household dust is best collected from areas not commonly dusted, such as the top ledges of doors and window frames. Unexplainable whitish dust in recently cleaned rooms of abductees' homes has also tested positive for these glassy particles. While abductees' homes have produced two or more styles of particles, no abductee's home to date has produced all styles of particles. Dr. Levengood is continuing his research into uncovering the origin of the currently unexplainable glassy particles. Thanks to Marilyn Rueben and Nancy Talbot. Particle photos can be seen at: <http://www.abduct.com/aaer2/r9.htm>.

Editor's Note: This evidence is very convincing and in the past I have frequently asked abductees to collect this type of evidence for BLT Research. Any person who has intruders in their home has the right to ask that their situation be investigated. Now we have a method for determining that unusual particles have been left in the abductee's home. I consider this a break through in helping to prove that strange things are happening in abductee's homes.

# FILER'S FILES

Filer's Files #8-2000

MUFON Skywatch Investigations

George A. Filer: MUFON Eastern Director,

February 25th, 2000

Majorstar@aol.com (609) 654-0020

## NEW PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF ABDUCTIONS

Nancy Talbot of BLT Research writes, "Last week's announcement by Marilyn Ruben (**Filer's Files #7**) regarding the discovery of trace material which has been found in the dust of self-described "abductee" homes was accurately presented. Although the findings are very preliminary, there are two reasons why they were presented:

(1) It was felt by Levengood that, if we are to obtain dust samples from a broader sampling group, Ms. Ruben's website was a good place to begin to acquaint people who have had "abduction" experiences, with the possibility that anomalous material might be present in their house dust.

(2) This type of exploratory investigation demands quite a different approach than does, for example, the exploration of changes in crop formation plants and soils. Thorough examination of house dust samples requires hours of tedious microscopic measurements and manipulation, as well as the availability of associated spectroscopic analyses. It was thought that a brief statement concerning these preliminary findings might stimulate other scientists to have a look at such materials.

Because of other ongoing research projects and the considerable eye-strain involved in this type of work, Levengood is not able to spend long hours on the microscope. However, these micron-sized "glassy particles" which have now been found in dust samples from multiple self-described "abductee's" homes are, in fact, of considerable interest, and the BLT Research Team is conducting a long-term evaluation of these strange particles. Many of them, in spite of their microscopic size, appear to have both internal and external complex structures. Some of them have what appear to be nuclei, in spite of the fact that Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS) analyses indicate a silicate-type composition. Also, similar particles have been found in white deposited material at crop formation sites in several countries and in material retrieved from witness-described UFO trace cases.

The fact that the BLT Team is looking at these particles, whether from crop formation sites, UFO-trace cases, or from "abductee" homes, should not be construed as acceptance by BLT of an extraterrestrial causation; we have no opinion as to the origin of these particles at this time. For information on dust-sampling contact Nancy Talbott at the BLT office in Cambridge, MA (phone: 617/492-0415)." /BLT Research Team Inc.

Editor's Note: The BLT Team does an excellent job and I encourage donations to support expensive testing and research.

## CALIFORNIA EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT?

**EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE** -- Billy Dee's contact reports on February 8, 2000, that the last three nights have been active with flights of fighters, helicopters, and transports doing night drops. In addition I was watching a strange object going in one direction and abruptly reverse course. It's lighting was randomly changing from flashing to non-flashing red and green lights, bright white light, and sometimes no lights at all. The object flew almost directly over the house. Imagine my surprise to hear a small engine! My wife and I watched as it flew over, still randomly changing it's lighting pattern. Last night, just after sundown, I saw this same plane take off from Edwards again and head directly towards me with extremely bright white light, and two red lights. I called out two family members and we all watched as it flew overhead. Because it wasn't quite dark yet, I was able to see through binoculars that it was a small ultralight with an open cockpit, fixed wings, and the engine behind the cockpit. It had a pole projecting forward with different colored lights attached. There were also lights on the end of both wings and the rear. All of these light s could randomly change color, from red, to green, to bright white, or none at all. We watched for twenty minutes as constantly changed the configuration of its lighting. It appears designed to confuse. Thanks to BillyDee@ufossi.org. Editors Note: It does appear they are testing various light configurations possibly in an attempt to fool enemy antiaircraft gunners. With the advent of stealth aircraft that are almost invisible to radar, enemy gunners often must rely on visual recognition of a target. Various lighting patterns can confuse attempts to down our aircraft.

**SAN FRANCISCO** -- On the evening of Super Bowl Sunday, January 30, 2000, I was hauling up a line of crab traps off Farlon Island aboard our 25' boat. My dog started to bark furiously. I looked up and saw a huge triangular object hovering above with NO sound. I was hit by a beam of white light and fell backward. I grabbed my Ruger 10-22 rifle loaded with a 100 round banana magazine and started firing as fast as I could until the clip was empty. I was able to shoot out the light. While grabbing for a second clip, I saw a hatch open up on the bottom side of the object and two people leaned down to yell, "STOP SHOOTING AT US YOU IDIOT." The only other noise I heard was a hissing sound like air escaping from a flat tire. As the object moved off to the south, I saw a helicopter come out off the top and move in next to my boat about 20 feet off the water and only feet away. Someone in the side door held up a camera and the flash shot off a picture of me in the boat holding the rifle. The helicopter made no noise and had no markings on it. It was solid flat black as was the huge Triangle. The chopper then took off toward the Golden Gate Bridge climbing up. The Triangle slowing gained altitude and was last seen heading south. At first I thought it was an alien UFO and was genuinely startled by it. However, I now believe it was an experimental military platform for transporting a small fleet of black helicopters that leave and enter out of the top of a huge silent floating triangle the size of a football field. A rigid airship if you will. (NUFORC noted: This may be the first report we have received that has the occupants of such a craft using a camera with a flash attachment.) Thanks to Peter Davenport at [www.ufocenter.com](http://www.ufocenter.com).

# UFO ROUNDUP

Volume 5  
Number 6  
February 10, 2000

Editor: Joseph Trainor

 Masinaigan@aol.com



## ROUNDUP MYSTERY VAN SIGHTED IN ARIZONA

On Thursday evening, February 3, 2000, a dentist, Dr. Bruce C., was at Park Mall in Tucson, Arizona (population 405,390) when he spotted an unusual white van with Georgia license plates in the mall's parking lot.

Yes, it was the UFO Roundup mystery van, which first appeared in Warsaw, Indiana (population 10,968) in July 1999. Three months later, in October 1999, the van was seen again at a casino in Lake Charles, Louisiana (population 70,500).

It is not known who is the operator of the late-model white van with its array of high-gain dish antennae. On the van's rear are the words UFO FIELD INTERCEPT TEAM and beneath it the website address: <http://ufoinfo.com/roundup>.

However, the van is not the property of either UFO Roundup editor Joseph Trainor or UFO INFO webmaster John Hayes.

The purpose of the van's mysterious trip across the USA is unknown.

"I saw a white van with various antennae on it (and) Georgia license plates," Dr. C. reported. "I saw it in a shopping center parking lot early this evening. It had your Web address on the back, which led me to discover your very comprehensive and well-done site."

For more information about the van's first appearance in Indiana, see **UFO Roundup, volume 4, number 16**.

For more information on the van's presence in Louisiana, see **UFO Roundup, volume 4, number 27**.

**Filer's Files #6-2000**  
**MUFON Skywatch Investigations**  
**George A. Filer: MUFON Eastern Director,**  
**February 12th, 2000**  
**Majorstar@aol.com (609) 654-0020**

**CANADA AND ALASKA GIANT UFO**

The MUFON Journal February 2000 carried an article concerning a huge UFO hovering over Fox Lake in the Yukon Territory, Canada on December 11, 1996. The circular craft appears something like a walnut in the photos drawn by 22 witnesses. The giant craft was believed to be from a half mile to over a mile in diameter based on triangulation calculations and the testimony of the witnesses. There are no known flying objects this large on Earth. One of the sightings that most influenced my own interest in UFOs was that of Captain Kanji Teach and Japanese airline Flight 1628. The crew spotted a giant similar shaped UFO on November 17, 1986. The Japanese pilots noticed some unusual lights accompanying their 747 aircraft that approached very close. They caught a brief glimpse of the main object's walnut-shaped silhouette and judged it to be "two times bigger than an aircraft carrier or 2,000 feet long." The pilot was instructed by air traffic control to descend to 4,000 feet and make turns, but the object continued to follow the plane for 32 minutes before vanishing.

The FAA admitted the objects were tracked on radar, but had not registered on the radar tapes. The FAA investigated and found the crews to be normal and rational. I have flown this Pacific Ocean route on many occasions and you can often see other flights ahead and behind you. I did some checking and TWA pilots were flying further south along the Alaskan Coast and also saw the huge UFO. Whenever there is a verified airborne sighting it is prudent to attempt to determine what other aircraft are likely to be in the area. Airline pilots are generally told not to talk to the news media but they will often reveal sightings to investigators. The FAA will seldom if ever admit they have a UFO on radar. Even when an aircrew has one in sight, they will not admit it is on the radar but they will divert you from a midair collision. It appears the huge walnut UFO apparently has made its appearance once again. We have aircrews and 22 ground witnesses who seem to be describing a craft so large that it is unlikely to be from Earth. I encourage you to get the MUFON Journal and read this entire story by Martin Jasek a civil engineer and MUFON investigator.

LOCAL NGs

**UFO STUDY GROUP OF GREATER ST. LOUIS**  
Meets regularly the second Sunday of the month at 2 P.M. at Schnucks Station Rest., 8650 Big Bend, Webster Groves, MO 63119. For more information call Spence Wolling, 966-4955, or Walter Palmer at 771-0173.

**MUFON MISSOURI-ST. CHARLES, MO.**  
Normal reg. mtg. monthly the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn Select at 4221 South Outer Rd., St. Peters, MO., 1/2 mile W. of Cave Springs Exit 2. For more information, call Bruce Widaman at 946-1394.

**MUFON OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS**

Regular meetings at 2 P.M. the third Sunday of the month, now held at the Ponderosa Steak House in Collinsville. From St. Louis take 55-70 east to Illinois 157. Turn left or north on 157 and go a short distance to an overhead sign that says Police left. Turn left there. Info call Forest Crawford at (618)-345-0554.

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UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, Inc.  
P.O. Box 31544  
St. Louis, Missouri 63131



UHR  
P. O. Box 176  
Stoneham, MA 02180